



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants Awarded** *Funds help local fire departments reduce wildfire risks*

**Frankfort, Ky.** (Oct. 18, 2013) – The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) recently awarded \$195,000 in grant funds to 62 rural fire departments across the state through the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program.

Over the last 10 years, KDF has given out more than \$2.1 million to fire departments. Funding for the program is provided by the USDA Forest Service and administered by KDF. The VFA grant program is open to volunteer fire departments protecting communities with a population of 10,000 or less to help them increase their capacity to fight wildfires.

VFA grants are typically used to purchase training materials, pumps, hoses, tanks, small wildfire suppression equipment and personal protective equipment such as Nomex<sup>®</sup>, fire shelters and gloves. The objectives of the VFA grant program include the following:

- organize, train, and equip fire departments in rural areas and rural communities;
- assist qualifying fire departments in saving lives and protecting property in rural communities;
- prevent or reduce loss of life, protect financial investments, and enhance environmental quality to revitalize rural America;
- and increase the opportunity for rural fire departments to acquire training and current information on wildfire suppression techniques.

VFA grant recipients include the following volunteer fire departments (VFDs):

Anneta VFD	Flaherty VFD	Oak Grove VFD
Avawom VFD	Fogertown VFD	Oldtown VFD
Bagdad FPD	Gordon VFD	Owenton VFD
Ballardsville F&R	Hanson F&R	Preston VFD
Bardwell City FD	Hartford FD	Richland VFD
Bedford F&R	Harvey Brewers FD	Rockhouse VFD
Breading Area VFD	Hurricane Creek VFD	Rousseau
Bremen Community VFD	Jenkins FD	Sandy Hook F&R
Brodhead FD	Jonesville VFD	Science Hill FD
Cedar Springs VFD No. 2	Leatherwood VFD	Shelby Valley VFD
Central Hardin F&R	Lovellaceville VFD	South Hopkins FD
City of Shepherdsville FD	Meade Co FPD	St Charles VFD
Corinth VFD	Menifee FPD	Summersville VFD
Custer FD	Milburn VFD	Tilton VFD
Dabney VFD	Minton F&R	Walton FD
Dawson Springs VFD	Morehead FD	West Knox F&R
Earlington FD	Mortons Gap FD	West Van Lear VFD
Eubank VFD	Mt Carmel VFD	White Plains FD
Ewing VFD	Mt. Eden FD	Woodbine VFD
Fairdealing - Olive FD	Mt. Vernon FD	Woodford Co FPD
Fern Creek FD	Northern Pendleton FD	

For more information about the Volunteer Fire Assistance contact KDF at 1-800-866-0555 or visit [forestry.ky.gov](http://forestry.ky.gov)

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